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Early Edition

# Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

## Experts: Embrace troubled students

After Fla. shooting, some tout inclusion to prevent violence

BY TED GREGORY AND JOHN KEILMAN  
Chicago Tribune

Amid the heartbreak and horror of yet another mass school shooting is the persistent sentiment that schools must do more to protect students by expanding security, installing more obstacles to attackers, even arming staff and teachers.

But local school administrators and experts on school violence also are emphasizing a tandem approach, one whose aim is to embrace troublesome students instead of separating them from their schools and peers.

Addressing the west suburban Lyons Township High School community on Thursday, Principal Brian Waterman underscored how the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida that killed 17 people “reminds us of the importance of regularly reviewing, updating, and familiarizing ourselves with our emergency planning procedures.”

But Waterman also said it's important to build relationships with students, something that he brings up when talking about school safety.

“I consistently mention that the most effective strategy we have is our ability to build positive relationships and connections with individual students,” he said.

In addressing the nation after the shooting, Presi-

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GETTY-AFP

## In many states, teenagers can buy rifles with no wait

Federal law requires someone to be at least 21 to buy a handgun, but there's no such restriction for rifles, shotguns or the AR-15.  
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## Madigan vows to 'do better' on harassment issue

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## Endorsements for assessor, GOP governor races

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*“The healing process starts today for CPD and the family.”*

— Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson, at Friday's wake for Cmdr. Paul Bauer



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The casket of police Cmdr. Paul Bauer arrives Friday at Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church in Chicago's Bridgeport neighborhood.

# CITY MOURNS OFFICER: ‘WE LOST A HERO’

## Hundreds gather in Bridgeport for slain commander's wake

BY ESE OLUMHENSE AND GREGORY PRATT  
Chicago Tribune

Hundreds of people formed a line three blocks long outside a Bridgeport church Friday for the wake of police Cmdr. Paul Bauer, who was shot and killed earlier in the week while confronting a suspect in the Loop.

The mourners came from all parts of Chicago and the state, driving from as far as Bloomington and Wisconsin to pay their respects. Federal agents, including U.S. marshals and customs officials, stood in the cold outside Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church. Groups of officers from suburbs including Cicero, Waukegan, Park Ridge, Des Plaines and Oak Brook mingled with Chicago cops of all ranks.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel came early, as did



CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago police at Bauer's wake wore buttons honoring the slain commander of the Near North District.

former Mayor Richard M. Daley. Also arriving as the wake got underway were two other Daley brothers, Cook County Commissioner John Daley and former White House chief of staff William Daley. Former police Superintendent Garry McCarthy petted a police horse on the backside while greeting an officer outside the church.

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White said he knew Bauer and considered him a friend. The fact that Bauer took it upon himself to join in pursuit of a suspect shows how deeply Bauer took his responsibility to keep the public safe, he said.

“We lost a hero,” White said.

Inside the church, Bauer's wife, Erin, his 13-year-old daughter, Grace, and his father and

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## Xanax, opioids prove lethal mix as area death toll soars

Widely prescribed sedatives gaining pop culture cachet

BY JOHN KEILMAN  
Chicago Tribune

Nick was a high school junior already well-acquainted with mind-altering substances when a friend introduced him to Xanax. He was immediately smitten.

The prescription anti-anxiety medication affected him differently than booze or weed, he recalled, smothering his inner turmoil so completely he became a fugitive from his own mind.

“Whenever I would take it, I felt very at ease,”

said Nick, now 26. “It made me really unproductive. I'd be able to do the schoolwork but at the same time I felt really relaxed. Half the time I'd be forgetting the stuff I was doing.”

Xanax is a benzodiazepines, a class of drugs that includes Valium and Klonopin. They are sedatives that are normally used to relieve anxiety and insomnia, but as they have become more commonly prescribed over the last two decades, abuse and overdoses have followed.

The drugs have also seeped into pop culture, with performers from Eminem to Future mentioning benzodiazepines in their lyrics. One enter-

tainer, Lil Xanax, even derived his name from the most prominent brand.

But the November death of rapper Lil Peep, attributed to Xanax and the opioid fentanyl, illustrated the danger posed by the indiscriminate use of benzodiazepines, particularly when they're mixed with other drugs.

Cook County saw 333 such deaths last year, nearly three times the number in 2015, according to data from the office of Medical Examiner Ponni Arunkumar. Almost all came when benzodiazepines were consumed with opioids, a combination that can depress

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